

Amdt. dated August 13, 2004

Reply to Office action of February 25, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and

) listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended). A configuration for generating an information-bearing response signal to a received electromagnetic radiation, comprising:

a receiver for the electromagnetic radiation;

a transducer coupled to the receiver for changing the electromagnetic radiation into a storable secondary energy;

a storage device connected to said transducer for storing the storable secondary energy;

a nonlinear element connected to said storage device ~~for generating~~ , said non-linear element being configured to generate a pulse-shaped radio-frequency signal from the storable secondary energy of the electromagnetic radiation when ~~a threshold value is reached in the storage device an~~

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amount of the secondary energy stored in the storage device
reaches a given threshold value;

a coding element connected to said nonlinear element for
impressing information on the radio-frequency signal to
generate a response signal; and

a transmitting antenna connected to said coding element for
broadcasting the response signal.

Claim 2 (original). The configuration according to claim 1,
wherein said transducer is a heating element and said storage
device is a heat storage device.

Claim 3 (original). The configuration according to claim 2,
wherein said storage device a pyroelectrical element.

Claim 4 (original). The configuration according to claim 1,
wherein said receiver is a radio receiver.

Claim 5 (original). The configuration according to claim 1,
wherein a photoelectric element acts as said receiver and said
transducer.

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Claim 6 (original). The configuration as claimed in claim 5, wherein said storage device stores electrical energy.

Claim 7 (original). The configuration according to claim 1, wherein a photovoltaic element acts as said receiver and said transducer.

Claim 8 (original). The configuration as claimed in claim 7, wherein said storage device stores electrical energy.

Claim 9 (original). The configuration according to claim 1, wherein said storage device is a capacitor.

Claim 10. The configuration according to claim 1, wherein said storage device is an electrochemical storage element.

Claim 11 (original). The configuration according to claims 1, wherein said receiver is an infrared receiver.

Claim 12 (original). The configuration according to claim 1, wherein said nonlinear element is a spark gap.

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Claim 13 (original). The configuration according to claim 1,
wherein said nonlinear element is a diode.

Claim 14 (original). The configuration according to claim 1,
wherein said nonlinear element is a gas discharge tube.

Claim 15 (original). The configuration according to claim 1,
wherein said nonlinear element is an avalanche semiconductor
element.

Claim 16 (original). The configuration according to claim 1,
wherein said coding element is a SAW component.

Claim 17 (original). The configuration according to claim 1,
wherein said coding element is a resonator configuration.

Claim 18 (original). The configuration according to claim 1,
wherein said coding element is a delay line.

Claim 19 (original). The configuration according to claim 1,
wherein said coding element is a dielectric filter.

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Claim 20 (original). The configuration according to claim 1, wherein said coding element is a coaxial ceramic filter.

Claim 21 (original). The configuration according to claim 1, wherein said coding element is a volume transducer.

Claim 22 (original). The configuration according to claim 1, wherein said coding element is an LC filter.

Claim 23 (original). The configuration according to claim 1, wherein said coding element is a sensor.

Claim 24 (currently amended). A method for remotely interrogating a configuration for generating an information-bearing response signal to a received electromagnetic radiation, which sequentially comprises:

providing a configuration;

generating an electromagnetic radiation of relatively low amplitude in an interrogating device;

transmitting the radiation to the configuration;

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storing secondary energy of the electromagnetic radiation in the configuration;

)
when an amount of the secondary energy stored in the storage device reaches a given threshold value, generating a short pulse-shaped radio-frequency signal of relatively high amplitude from the stored secondary energy ~~when a threshold value is reached;~~

impressing an information item on the short radio-frequency signal to generate a response signal; and

radiating the response signal.

Claim 25 (original). The method according to claim 24, which further comprises:

storing the secondary energy as heat in a pyroelectrical element;

)
generating a temperature-dependent pyroelectrical voltage with the pyroelectrical element; and

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) generating with a nonlinear element the radio-frequency signal when a predetermined pyroelectrical voltage is reached as threshold value.

Claim 26 (original). The method according to claim 24, wherein the information item is an identification code.

Claim 27 (original). The method according to claim 24, which further comprises impressing the information relating to a type of an environmental parameter on the radio-frequency signal with a sensor that specifically reacts to the environmental parameter.

Claim 28 (original). The method according to claim 24, which further comprises impressing the information relating to a quantity of an environmental parameter on the radio-frequency signal with a sensor that specifically reacts to the environmental parameter.